

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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EASTERN

F.O.  
371

1947



PALESTINE

File No. 951

pp. 9667 - 9860

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 Reference  
**FO 371** / 61883

CLOSED  
UNTIL

1978

61883

289

1947

E

2

E 9667

PALESTINE

17 OCT

Registry Number E 9667/951/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. M. Bunker

Dated Cairo

Received in Registry 20 28

16 Oct

14 -

Egyptian Troop Movements.

Refer memo of 20/10 (E 9633/951/31)

Egyptian officers admitted to Chief of S.M.M. that some Egyptian Army units, strength between 1,800 and 2,000 men were to be moved to El. Arish, a specially to carry out manoeuvres in an area free of cholera. (minutes) admitted that real reason was to protect Palestine

Last Paper.

9666

References.

(Minutes.)

Rebated to Washington & New York

Egyptian Del. Oct. 22/10 No news that they have yet moved.

Stable

(J.E.C.H.B.G.)

Also sent to M13a, M04, 17/10

Army, Am

The Sims Oct. 18

(Print.)

61883

(How disposed of.)

8, Washington - C.O.

Oct - 18

8) M13a

M04

A.I.P.

Activity.

(on E 9711) Oct. 22.

Kafk to U.K. Del. N.Y.

W/ton 10717 3543.

(Action completed.)

Y.C.M. 4/11

Oct. 17. 29/10/48

Next Paper.

E 9676

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61883

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In-P.P. C.C.M.K.F 91/224437 19/10

Please see separate minute

27/10



E / /

22 OCT 1947

ONE TIME PAD.

MW 4  
411801.

Recd 19 Oct 47.

From:- C in C MELF.

D.T.O. 181236B Oct.

To:- War Office.

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET. GI/224437?.

For MI 3.

Your should see Embassy Cairo signals to Foreign Office No 2028 of 16 Oct and 2032 of 17 Oct reporting forthcoming move of about 2000 Egyptian Tps to Sinai in order "to protect the Palestine Arab". Newspapers here state reason for move is to replace existing grn El Arish and combat smuggling. We estimate present str garrison El Garish as approx 400. Message Control.

Distribution by M. I. 3a.

Copies to DMO

DDMO(A)

MO 1, 4.

DMI

DDMI(I)

MI 3, 3(a),

Foreign Office (Mr. Beith).

Colonial Office (Lt.Col.Chalmers)

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**FO**  
371 / 61883

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E

E 9676

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1947

PALESTINE

17 OCT

Registry Number

E 9676/957/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

M Evans

Dated

Secret

Received in Registry

758  
16 Oct  
17 -

*Lynan Troop Movements.*

Refer Telegram of 1421. Lynan foot guard to have withdrawn with unnecessary haste and to have given equally unnecessary publicity to their troop movement. It might be possible, but probably to Lynan foot guard to ask any Arab foot guard to withdraw their troops and they have moved to the frontier would be to invite a rebuff.

Last Paper.

9667

(Minutes.)

See E 9695 x minute

JB Oct. 18

References.

In P.P. 70. Minute in Bureau 23/10.

JB Oct. 29

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

S. Whithers  
GO  
Oct. 22.

8 M. 3a  
1 M. 04  
A.M.

Adm. Sec.  
Gr. Bart. / Stapleton  
Lab. Off.  
(see E 9711/951/31) 22 Oct

(Action completed.)

J.C.M. 29/10

(Index.)

29/10/48

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Reference

**FO 371 / 61883**









E

E 9695

9

1947

PALESTINE

17 OCT

Registry Number

E 969 / 957/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. M Dundas

Damascus

Dated 14.50

Received in Registry 16 Oct

17 -

*Syria Troop Movements*  
Refer Jerusalem tel 1921. Movement of Syrian troops from QUAITRA area did not take place until after Arab League Council decision & recommend that the troops should be moved. Under circumstances does not feel that any attempt to persuade Syrian Govt to withdraw them would meet with success.

Last Paper.

9682.

References.

(Minutes.)

2 P P.

\* now see below  
no E 9781

We have not yet received a copy of Jerusalem telegram No. 1921 but I am informed that it consists of a request by the High Commissioner that we should weigh in with the Syrians in the matter of their recent troop movements. It was apparently sent before the High Commissioner took cognizance of the action taken by Mr. Dundas in Damascus. The Colonial Office are therefore replying to the High Commissioner in the form of a telegram drawing attention to Mr. Dundas's telegrams and suggesting that no further action is required.

As regards the suggestion made by Mr. Evans in paragraph 2 of his telegram No. 758 in E 9676, I think we can assume that the Syrians are already warned, as a result of Mr. Dundas's representations, that we rely upon them not to cause any incidents on the Palestine frontier.

Co. are sending in a copy of Jerusalem M 1921

J. G. S. Beith

See minute by S/S on Beirut No. 758 (E 9676) (J. G. S. Beith.) 18th October, 1947.

NB Jerusalem tel. No. 1921 and a further out cry from the High Commissioner No. 1944 will now be found in E 9781. The Colonial Office are drafting a soothing reply, giving no hope that we shall make further representations

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

✓, Buchanan  
80  
Oct 22.

✓, Mr. J. F. Smollett  
M.S.A.  
free mess.  
23 Oct

(Action completed.)

J. S. / 29/10

(Index.)

[Signature] 29/10/47

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E 9704

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Reference

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11E

CYPHER/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM DAMASCUS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Dundas.  
No. 450.

D: 5.48 p.m.16th October, 1947.

16th October, 1947. R: 7.36 p.m.16th October, 1947.

Repeated to: Jerusalem,  
Cairo,  
Bagdad,  
Jedda,  
Amman,  
U.K.Delegation New York  
Beirut Saving.

E 9695

17 OCT

PERSONAL

Jerusalem telegram No. 1,921 to Secretary of State for the Colonies paragraph 4.

Movement of Syrian troops to Quaitra area though, I believe, planned some days in advance did not take place until after the Arab League Council's decision to recommend that the troops should be moved. It therefore has the sanction of an Arab League decision behind it and I do not feel in these circumstances that any attempt to persuade the Syrian Government to withdraw them would meet with success.

2. In my opinion one of the reasons which caused the Syrians to take such precipitate action was the very circumstantial rumours that Transjordan forces were on the move. When it becomes apparent that these rumours may be untrue and as soon as the winter rains begin many Syrian troops may well be without publicity, withdrawn to their winter quarters.

Foreign Office please pass to United Kingdom Delegation New York as my telegram No. 3 and Cairo to B.M.E.O. as my telegram No. 73.

[Repeated to U.K.Delegation New York and B.M.E.O. Cairo].

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17 OCT 1947

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Reference  
**FO** 371 / 61883

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E

12

1947

E 9705

PALESTINE

17 OCT

Registry Number E9705/951/31  
 TELEGRAM FROM  
 No. *Mi Evans*  
 Dated *Beirut.*  
 Received in Registry *6.7.1947*  
*14. Oct*  
*17.*

*Defence of Palestine, Lebanon.*  
*Transmit gist of two speeches delivered in Lebanese Chamber Oct. 11. by Deputy Khalil Abi Saad, and Prime Minister Riad Solh re Lebanon's part in the defence of Palestine.*

Last Paper.

9704

(Minutes.)

*This is not very important.*

*J. E. Cable*  
 (J.E. CABLE)  
 17/10  
 JB Oct. 18

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

*8, Markham St*  
*✓ Oct-22*

(Action completed.)

*L. L. 20/10*

(Index.)

*[Signature]*

Next Paper.

E 9711

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Reference  
**FO 371** / **61883**

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

13 E

E 9705

En Clair. GABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM BEIRUT TO FOREIGN OFFICE 7 OCT

No. 67 Saving.

14th October, 1947. R: 9.50 a.m. 17th October, 1947.

Repeated to Amman No. 95.	)	
Jedda No. 94.	)	
Damascus No. 245	)	
Bagdad No. 89	)	SAVING.
Cairo Embassy No. 65	)	
" B.M.E.O. No. 48	)	
Jerusalem No. 67.	)	

Palestine.

Following is gist of two speeches delivered in Lebanese Chamber October 11th.

[Begins]

Deputy Khalel Abi Jowdet (Maronite). "The Lebanese people welcome the League's decisions for Palestine's defence. Zionism is threatening the Lebanon. It is said the Army has been ordered to move to the frontiers and await instructions. The Jews of Palestine are fully armed with up to date arms. I am not asking for a military secret but would like to know whether our army has been sent to the frontier and what precautions are being taken by the Government for its safety?

Prime Minister Riad Solh. "I have to make it clear that the Lebanon will in no way abandon its privileged position. It is our duty to be with the Arabs our brethren and help them when they need our help. I remind you that a few years ago when this country was occupied by the colonial army we feared nobody but we fought until we secured our wishes and independence. (Applause). We shall strive in the cause of Palestine, and we shall increase our arms in the near future. I have always said the Lebanon will not only take part in the talks of the Arab League but will invite them to meet here. Here they are to-day as other Arab conferences have been. Lebanon will fulfil her duties and will not give away her privileged position. It is encouraging to see how well our delegation in America is received by our Lebanese brethren.

[Ends].

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E

14

E 9711

1947

PALESTINE

18 OCT

Registry Number

E 9711/951/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

M. Evans

Dated

Beirut

Received in Registry

65 Savoy

9 Oct

18 -

Resolution by Lebanese Chamber of Deputies.  
The members of Lebanese Parliament, who  
heartily welcome the Arab League Council  
to the Lebanon, and willingly agree to  
accept all the decisions taken by the  
League for the defence of Palestine.

Last Paper.

9705

(Minutes.)

M. S. Quint  
Oct 18

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Abathman B.O.  
M.I. 3.9  
M.O. 4.  
Adm. Div.  
A.M.  
✓ Oct. 22

(Action completed.)

J. L. 22/10

(Index.)

29/10/48

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6. Berendsen (New Zealand) favoured the Majority Plan but insisted that the Committee must concern itself with the means by which it was to be carried into effect.

7. Jamali (Iraq) and Heikel (Egypt) then elaborated the Arab case. Jamali dwelt at length on the influence of Zionism on the policy of the United States and pointed out that neither the non-Zionist Jews nor the extreme wing of the Zionists themselves accepted Partition. The Jewish Agency was not representative of the Jewish people as a whole. He warned the Committee that partition would not end the trouble in Palestine. Heikel argued that a decision creating a Jewish State was not within the competence of the General Assembly. Consequently it would have no international effect and would bind nobody.

8. Lisicky (Czechoslovakia) said that a people's will to live as a nation was sufficient justification for the establishment of a State. Undertakings given at an earlier date by His Majesty's Government had no bearing on the validity of the Mandate. He admitted that the provision made by the UNSCOP majority for the protection of Arab cultivators in the Jewish State might be strengthened. Speaking on the juridical situation he said that the responsibility of the Assembly would end when it made recommendations to His Majesty's Government. What use was made of the recommendations would be for His Majesty's Government to decide in the framework of their international obligations. He endorsed the United States statement on this point and deprecated the "unilateral laying down of international obligations". Lisicky then asked a number of questions concerning the proposal for an international volunteer force. Who would select recruits? Should recruiting be restricted in any way? What would be the language of command? Who would provide the training equipment and arms? What military code would be observed? Who would provide for the dependents of members of the force killed on duty? How long would it take to give the force adequate training? If the Mandate was to be asked to carry on during this period, would it not be simpler to ask the Mandatory to stay throughout the period of transition? Finally he asked whether contingents of regular forces might not present fewer disadvantages.

9. After dinner Arslan (Syria) underlined remark in Colonial Secretary's speech that "the national home has been established". Morgenstierne (Norway) supported the Majority Plan and also the proposal for a liquidation of the problem of displaced persons. Granados (Guatemala) accused Chamoun (Lebanon) of having misled the Committee by falsifying the text of Article 16 of the Treaty of Lausanne. Chamoun turned the tables, however, by showing that he had quoted it from the record of an earlier speech by Granados himself.

10. The general debate was then closed. At its next two meetings the Committee will hear spokesmen for the Jewish Agency and the Arab Higher Committee.

Foreign Office please pass Immediate to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 99.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office for transmission to Jerusalem].

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Reference

FO 371 61883

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E

23

E 9717

1947

PALESTINE

18 OCT

Registry Number

E9717/951/21

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

M. Bowker

Dated

1947

Received in Registry

2032

17 Oct

18

Egyptian Troop Movements.  
Re: Cairo 21 2038 (E9717/951/21) (Ref of 11/10) in view that source of his information should not be revealed since his friendly relations with other national defence might otherwise be compromised.

Last Paper.

9716

References.

Egyptian Troop  
24/10

11/10  
(TELETYPE)  
11/10

I am afraid this tel. was too late to cancel or withdraw the Cabinet distribution given to the tel. under reference.

D. S. Jones  
Oct 20

R. P. ...  
21/10

21/10

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

P. Matherian 80.  
M.I. 39.  
M.I. 4.  
Admty  
9/11.  
Oct 22  
(encl 9711)

(Action completed.)

J. C. M. 27/10

(Index)

29/10/48

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Reference FO 371 61883



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E 9724

19 17

PALESTINE  
PALESTINE

18 OCT

Registry  
Number

E 9724/951/51

TELEGRAM FROM

U.K. Tel

No.

New York

Dated

2962

Received  
in Registry

17 Oct  
18

Consequences of withdrawal.

Refer para 3 of tel from Martin & M/C  
17 Oct regarding newspaper of withdrawal.  
Suggest giving local publicity of tel &  
statement on which to categorically demand  
that there is any trust in ~~renewed~~ and conditions  
of tel. H.M.G. Has given any encouragement  
or assistance to ~~actions~~, likely to influence  
situation - M.C.

(Minutes.)

Last Paper.

9717

References.

*J. B. B. B.*  
(FECABLE)  
20/10  
18 Oct. 20

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, Wharfedale & P.  
M.I. 3a  
M.O. 4  
Adm. City  
O.M.  
Oct-22  
(on 9716)

(Action  
completed.)

*J. S. M.*

(Index.)

*[Signature]*  
22/10/48

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Reference  
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E 9724

26<sup>F</sup>

Cypher/OTP

18 OCT DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 2962. D. 8.30 p.m. 17th October, 1947.  
17th October, 1947 R. 2.55 a.m. 18th October, 1947.

Repeated to Washington (Saving).

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

Following personal for High Commissioner for Palestine from Martin.

[Begins] With regard to the point made in (3) of paragraph 3 of my telegram of to-day regarding consequences of withdrawal, you will note from the text of the statement made yesterday by the Secretary of State that he categorically denied that there is any truth in rumours and assertions that His Majesty's Government has given any encouragement or assistance to actions likely to inflame the situation in the Middle East. In view of persistent allegations made in Jewish terrorist fund-raising advertisements and articles in American press that aggressive action by Arabs is being encouraged by British officials and that withdrawal by British troops will be arranged in such a way as to facilitate Arab domination over Palestine, you may wish to give full local publicity to relevant passage in Secretary of State's statement should there be signs of such allegations becoming current in Palestine. [Ends]

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

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Reference  
FO 371 / 61883

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E9724/951/21

27

En Clair

20 OCT 1947 DEPARTMENTAL No. 1

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 2968

D. 11.27 a.m. 18th October, 1947

18th October, 1947

R. 5.55 p.m. 18th October, 1947

Repeated to High Commissioner, Jerusalem,

IMPORTANT

My telegram No. 2962. E

Preamble should read.

Please pass to Jerusalem.

[Begins].

Addressed to Jerusalem telegram No. 100 of 17th  
October, repeated Foreign Office and Washington Saving.  
[Ends].

Please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 101.

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for  
repetition to Jerusalem].  
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20 OCT 1947

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FO 371 / 61883

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UNITED KINGDOM DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
EMPIRE STATE BUILDING  
NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

*enter*  
E 9727

E 29

20 OCT

TELEPHONE:  
LONGACRE 5-2070

REPLIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED  
P. O. Box 304  
NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

4th October, 1947.

My dear Peter,

I have not written before because the reactions to the Colonial Secretary's statement on Palestine have been very slow in developing. Even now comment has not passed beyond the point reached in Lisicky's speech summarised in my telegram reporting the 5th Meeting of the Palestine Committee.

2. Above all the attitude of the U.S. Delegation is still shrouded in obscurity. There is at least artistic truth in the rumour that they received from Washington a draft of a statement to be made in the Committee, and rejected it as having no ascertainable meaning. They have now told the Iraqis that they intend to make a non-committal statement in the course of next week. Judging from Silver's speech (our telegram No. 2741), I should guess that the Zionists have been discouraged in Washington where they must have been trying to persuade the U. S. Government to take over the responsibility for implementing the Majority Report.

3. Both the Jewish Agency leaders and the Arab Delegates here show much more readiness than their people in Palestine to believe that we are really determined to quit. The Zionists are pinning their hopes, I think, on some kind of endorsement by the Assembly of the Majority Report, which would enable them to claim international sanction for an attempt to set up a Jewish State in Palestine. The Arabs are still inclined to regard the problem as fundamentally an Anglo-Arab affair. I enclose a copy of a brief record of opinions expressed by Nuri at a small dinner party last night. I have not recorded the whole conversation, but the difficulties in the way of his proposals were carefully explained to him.

4. On the very scattered evidence available so far I should say that Nuri is probably right in his estimate that a two-thirds majority will not be found for any positive proposals incorporating the means for giving effect to them. We must, therefore, look forward to a short period, /

I. P. Garran, Esq.,  
FOREIGN OFFICE.

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VIEWS OF H.E. NURI PASHA.

On the 3rd October, the Colonial Secretary and Sir Hartley Shawcross dined with Nuri Pasha. A few other guests were present, including Dr. Jamali.

2. In the course of a long conversation on the Palestine problem, Nuri Pasha said that he did not believe the United Nations would succeed in adopting by a two-thirds majority any solution for the Palestine problem. Speaking realistically, therefore, the question <sup>can</sup> still be treated as one for Anglo-Arab agreement. He could not believe that the British intended to evacuate Palestine in conditions which would mean that their departure was immediately followed by chaos and bloodshed. He supposed, therefore, that they would try to obtain a settlement before they left.

3. In Nuri Pasha's view there were two essential <sup>pre</sup> conditions of settlement. A resolute effort should be made to find permanent homes immediately for all the displaced persons in Europe; if this were done the Arab countries would take their share. Secondly, the Jewish population of Palestine should be released from the intimidation to which they were at present subjected by a small minority of terrorists. Nuri Pasha did not believe that these terrorists numbered more than 4 or 5 thousand. If they were removed from the country, the Jewish community as a whole would feel able to adopt a more cooperative attitude and an agreed settlement might then become possible.

4. If these two steps were taken, we could before leaving Palestine form a provisional Government and hold elections as a foundation for the establishment of a Constitutional Government in a unitary state. The Arabs, inheriting the tradition of Moslem government, which accorded extensive rights to religious minorities, would be prepared to give the most generous treatment to the Jews living in Palestine as soon as they abandoned their ambition to establish an independent Jewish State.

(H. BEELEY)

4th October, 1947.

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Reference: FO 371 / 61883





SECRET

E9728

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Committee I Distribution.  
13th October, 1947.

1. On Saturday evening, October 11th, Mr. Knox of the State Department, asked me what was the reaction of the United Kingdom Delegation to Mr. Herschel Johnson's statement that morning on Palestine. I said I did not know, but took the opportunity of asking him, on a personal basis, to elucidate for my information one or two points in the statement.

2. I asked him about the phrase:

"The General Assembly did not, by admitting this item to its agenda, undertake to assume responsibility for the administration of Palestine during the process of transition to independence. Responsibility for the government of Palestine now rests with the mandatory power ..."

I asked him what sort of length of time the United States administration had in mind for "the process of transition to independence" and whether it was intended that the implementation of the UNSCOP partition plan should take place within the transition period.

3. Mr. Knox answered hesitantly. He said that these matters would have to be considered; but he seemed to think that the United States Government were thinking of what he called an "interim period" of about six months, during which time the details of partition would be worked out. After that, the British forces would withdraw and immediately the separate Jewish and Arab States would come into being. Upon being pressed, he said that the United States Government seriously thought that British forces could withdraw and the two States enter upon separate and peaceful lives "almost overnight". In fact, he did not envisage that "implementation" would be a difficult task.

4. I then asked him about the United States offer of assistance. Did this imply that the United States Government would be prepared to send Government forces to maintain "law and order" during the transition period? He replied with an emphatic No. The United States Government had no intention of sending troops to Palestine. It was for this reason that they had suggested "A special constabulary or police force".

5. I asked whether the United States Government considered that there should be any restriction on those joining this force. For instance,

/would .....

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Reference  
**FO** 371 / 61883

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would Jews and Arabs be allowed to serve? Mr. Knox said that he saw no reason for any restriction. The United States Government thought that the force should be composed of all those volunteering to serve. As a parallel, he mentioned the hired Hessian soldiers who had fought against the American Army in the War of Independence. (Mr. Man learned to-day that the United States Government hope that the police force will be officered by British officers with experience of the country).

6. The above views of Mr. Knox are extremely naive. They may not correspond to those of the draftsmen of the United States statement. I report them as evidence:

- (a) of the absence of thinking on this subject by the State Department, and
- (b) of the fact that United States policy on this subject, defined apparently outside the State Department, does not intend paying much heed to the convenience of His Majesty's Government.

(Signed) J. N. Henderson

I may add to the above that Mr. Wadsworth, of the United States Delegation, in drawing my attention to the assumption made in the Russian statement that our Administration would leave Palestine early in the transition period, seemed to think that this would be unwelcome to us.

(Signed) H. Beeley  
14th October, 1947.

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Reference  
**FO** 371 / 61883

903

E

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E 9757

1947

PALESTINE

20 OCT

Registry Number

E 9757/957/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

M. Dandas

Dated

14.5.6

Received in Registry

15 Oct

20

Typical Troop Movements

Refer Damascus (1445 (E 9632/957/31)) a very reliable source informs that only 500-600 troops at present in the Qunatra area from particulars.

Last Paper.

9728

References.

(Minutes.)

Referred to Washington & New York.

*[Signature]*

(TELETYPE)

20/10

Ms. Baird

Oct 20

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, *Whitman B.O.*  
M.I. 3a  
M.O. 4  
Adm. by  
d/m  
Oct 22  
(cont 9716)

(Action completed.)

*[Signature]*  
23/10

(Index.)

*[Signature]*  
30/10/48

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Reference FO 371 61883

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

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Cypher/OTP

CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM DAMASCUS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Dundas

No. 456

18th October, 1947

. D. 7.27 p.m. 18th October, 1947  
. R. 8.50 p.m. 18th October, 1947

Repeated to Jerusalem, Beirut and to Amman Saving.

SECRET

My telegram No. 445. *E 9655*

**E 9757**

A very reliable source informs me that there are only 500 to 800 troops at present in the Qunaitra area including one armoured car squadron, one weak battalion of infantry and two troops of light [grp. undec.] [grp. undec. ?cavalry]. Normal frontier cavalry patrol has been brought up to strength.

Repeated Beirut as my telegram No. 30.

888



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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61883

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204

E

38

1, 47

PALESTINE

E 9759

20 OCT

Registry Number

E9759/957/21

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

11 Oct  
Jerusalem

Dated

29 Oct

Received in Registry

19 Oct

20 -

Political Committee meetings. 17th.  
Refer New York tel 2959 (E 9711/957/21)  
Khatib was only speaker at 17th meeting  
and Weizmann the last at the 18th meeting.  
Arab Higher Committee were offered second  
evenings on first day, and first on second day,  
but Jamal Husayni decided to speak only  
once, gave two speeches.

Last Paper.

975-7

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, Matheron. 80.  
M.I. 3a  
M.O.H.  
Admty  
A.M.  
Oct 22  
(in 9716)

(Action completed.)

JEM 25/10

(Index)

20/10/48

Next Paper.

976A

(Minutes.)

Para 4. Weizmann seems to  
realise that he cannot rely  
on us to impose a Jewish  
State. In the last resort he  
thinks the Jews themselves  
plus an international force will  
be able to do the necessary.

WJ (Adm.) Sept.  
✓

B.S. Beine  
Oct. 21

R. Curran  
21/x

B.W.S.  
H.X

1	2	3	4	5	6
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References  
FO 371 61883

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4. Weizmann, who had difficulty in reading his typescript, said he had been disappointed to hear that he was not a Jew. After speaking of the origin and intentions of the mandate he said he had long believed that partition was the only practicable compromise. It was not a departure from the mandate but its inevitable consummation. The question before the Committee was: by whom should the Jewish community be governed - by a Trustee, by the arabs or by itself? Trusteeship was no longer feasible. The great services rendered by Britain "in helping to lay the foundations of Jewish independence" would be remembered when the sordid consequences of the White Paper were forgotten. He was encouraged by the Colonial Secretary's second speech to hope for British participation in bringing the project to a noble conclusion. The second alternative that the Jews should be a minority in an Arab State was morally impossible. A national unit could not be subjected to another people by force in the name of majority rule. Arab Jewish co-operation would be possible only when the Jewish people had attained an equal status. He asked the Committee to consider modifications of the U.N.S.C.O.P. majority plan notably in respect of Western Galilee and the Jewish district of Jerusalem. In considering the problem of implementation he asked them to take full account of "the assistance which our own people can give in making the Jewish State capable of its own defence". They did not anticipate or fear aggression but they hoped the Jewish forces would be "accompanied at the outset by an international force to symbolise the consent and decision of the United Nations".

Foreign Office please pass Immediate to High Commissioner Jerusalem as my telegram No.104.

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for retransmission to Jerusalem].

333    QQQ

1	2	3	4	5	6
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705

1947

E

E 9761  
42  
20 OCT

PALESTINE

Registry Number E 9761/957/31  
TELEGRAM FROM  
No. M. Alexander  
Dated Damascus  
Received 14.5.2.  
in Registry 17 Oct  
20 -

Your Resolution on trusteeship of Palestine.  
Telegram was yesterday received from Paris  
of course referring to the Jordan resolution  
which Syria objected to. It called for  
the UN to place Palestine under a trusteeship  
until full independence is granted.  
The instructions to be taken.

Last Paper.

971-9

(Minutes.)

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8. Whithers 6.0.  
M.I. P. 9.  
M.O. 14  
Robins  
9/11 Oct-22  
(on 9711)

(Action completed.)

J.C.M. 29/10.

(Index.)

30/10/48

Next Paper.

E 9768

This suggestion is rather similar  
to Lord Samuel's proposals, which  
were recently the subject of  
comment by C.O. and UN.  
(Pol.) Dept. But it does not  
square with para. 9 of N. York  
tel. No. 2983 and is  
apparently a garbled account  
of the Syrian delegate's resolution.  
I submit a draft reply.

J.S. Bevis  
Oct. 21

Now see draft on  
E 9780 which deals with this  
point JB. Oct. 22

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Reference  
FO 371 61883

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1

FROM DAMASCUS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Dundas  
No. 452

D. 3.42 p.m. 17th October, 1947

R. 5.41 p.m. 17th October, 1947

17th October, 1947

Repeated United Kingdom Delegation New York  
Arabs posts Saving

E 9761

SECRET

I have learnt very confidentially from an official of the Syrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs that a telegram was yesterday received from Faris Khoury informing Jamil Mardam of the resolution which the Syrian Delegation had tabled at Lake Success calling on His Majesty's Government to place Palestine under United Nations trusteeship until full independence is granted. This telegram was the first news that the Prime Minister received of the Syrian resolution and the proposals had never been considered by Jamil or other members of the Syrian Government.

2. It is possible that the Syrian President has sent instructions to Faris Khoury which are not known to Jamil and I hope to report on this later. Meanwhile I should be glad to have your instructions as to what line I should take towards the Syrian resolution.

Please pass to New York as my telegram No. 4.

[Repeated to United Kingdom Delegation New York].

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

u u u u u



1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference

FO 371 / 61883

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706

E

44

E 9768

1947

PALESTINE

20 OCT

Registry Number

E9768/951/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

U.M. 201  
New York

Dated

29th

Received in Registry

15 Oct  
20 -

Resolution of Hebrew Migration as 2000  
General Protocols  
Refer No. 4046/2953 (E9756/1020/31)  
Resolution submitted to Committee  
ment referring to report of investigation  
of 20,000 immigrants. Resol. No. 201.  
to 100000 resolution, a big member of  
and let other nationals from giving  
and from a police officer to the  
and from grant.

Last Paper.

9761

References.

(minutes.)

Refer me E 9756

20/10

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, Whithian. BU  
M-1.30  
M.O. 4  
Admty  
A.M.  
Oct 22  
(on E9716)

(Action completed.)

20/10

(Index.)

20/10

Next Paper.

E9780

PRINTED BY THE F.O.P.

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Reference  
FO 371 / 61883

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47

Mr. Rathieson, P.O.

M.O. 4.

M.I. 3a.

Admty.

A.M.

✓ Oct. 28

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Reference

FO 371 / 61883

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E 9780

53

En clair

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION.

20 OCT  
FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations,

No. 2985 D. 10.23 p.m. October 18th, 1947.  
October 18th, 1947. R. 9.59 a.m. October 19th, 1947.

Repeated to High Commissioner Jerusalem and Saving Washington.

Please pass to Colonial Office.

Following is a summary of the 15 formal resolutions which have so far been submitted to the Ad Hoc Committee on the Palestinian question and on which discussion will begin next week. Full texts of all these resolutions have been sent by air bag.

1. Colombia. Calling upon the peoples of Palestine to bring acts of violence to an early end.

2. El Salvador calling upon the Jewish Agency and the Arab Higher Committee to appoint three representatives each to meet in conference to find common grounds of agreement and to report to the General Assembly the results of the meeting - the recommendations in the report to contain adequate safeguards for religious interests.

3. United Kingdom recommending that each member of the United Nations adopt urgent measures for settling a fair share of displaced persons and refugees in its country, inform the Secretary General of the results of the consideration given to receiving in conformity with the principles of the I.R.O. its fair share of non repatriable persons, and join through the I.R.O. in the development of overall plans.

4. Yugoslavia recommending that Jewish refugees now in Cyprus camps shall be admitted to Palestine immediately.

5. Uruguay that immediate entry be granted into Palestine to 30,000 Jewish children their mothers and fathers and pregnant women at present in displaced persons camps and in Cyprus and other places of detention or assembly.

6. Lebanon recommending that the Governments of Member States refrain and prohibit nationals from giving assistance in any form to immigrants destined for Palestine.

7. Iraq to refer the following legal point to the International Court of Justice for an advisory opinion under Article 96 of the Charter.

"Did not the pledges given by Great Britain to the Shereef Hussein of Mecca and her subsequent declarations promises and assurances to the Arabs that in the event of Allied victory the Arab countries would obtain their independence include Palestine and its inhabitants?"

Egypt.

(1) To refer to the International Court of Justice for an advisory opinion the questions as to whether

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference

FO

371

61883

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whether (a) it lies within the competence of the General Assembly to recommend any of the two solutions proposed by the majority or by the minority of U.N.S.C.O.P. and (b) it lies within the rights of any Member States or group of Member States to implement any of the proposed solutions without the consent of the people of Palestine.

(2) Upon receipt of the Courts opinion the General Assembly to resume its examination of this phase of the Palestine question.

9. Syria recommends that the United Kingdom prepare an agreement under Article 79 of the Charter and submit it for approval to the General Assembly authorising Great Britain, as administering authority, to complete her task in Palestine during the transition period between the termination of the mandate and the transfer of power to the new Government of Palestine - this agreement to contain provision for the establishment of a sovereign State for the whole of Palestine on a democratic basis and for the election of Constituent Assembly and the enactment of a constitution on the lines of the new familiar Arab plan.

10. Netherlands: the Committee closely to co-ordinate its efforts to draft (a) proposals for a fair and practicable solution of the Palestine question as far as possible acceptable to both parties involved (b) recommendations for the adequate and effective implementation of this solution and (c) recommendations for an early solution of the problem of Jewish refugees and displaced persons.

11. United States and Sweden:

To accept the basic principles of the unanimous recommendations and the majority plan of the special committee on Palestine as a basis for its recommendations concerning the future Government of Palestine.

12. United States:

To establish a Sub Committee

(1) To draw up a detailed plan for the future Government of Palestine in accordance with the basic principles of the unanimous recommendations and the majority plan

(2) To incorporate this plan in the form of recommendations and

(3) To transmit these recommendations to the Ad Hoc Committee on the Palestinian question not later than 27th October.

13. Canada:

To add the following to the terms of reference of the Sub Committee proposed in the United States resolution at 12 above. "To consider the exercise of administrative responsibility in Palestine during the transitional period, including the possibility of the application of Chapter XII

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Reference: FO 371 / 61883

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of the Charter" and "to consider methods by which the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Palestinian question would be put into effect".

14. Uruguay

(a) That the Ad Hoc Committee adopt as a basis for discussion the majority report of the Special Committee on Palestine

(b) That proposals may be submitted or amendments proposed on questions of substance throughout the period for which the matter is under consideration by the Ad Hoc Committee.

The Uruguay resolution also contains proposals for modification of the boundaries recommended in the majority report for the setting up of a sub committee to study the plan for economic union, this sub committee to have the cooperation of the Jewish Agency and the Arab Higher Committee in its work and for transfer by the mandatory Power to the United Nations of the administration of Palestine during the transitional period, the United Nations to exercise its authority through a provisional council consisting of five members, three appointed by the General Assembly from citizens of Member States and two to be appointed by the General Assembly on the proposal of the Jewish Agency and the Arab Higher Committee.

15. Guatemala: to recommend that the General Assembly approve the majority plan, subject to amendments providing for

(1) termination of the transitional period not later than 1st September 1949 - either of the States to have the right within this period to request its independence if it can prove that it has complied with the conditions stated in paragraph 2 of recommendation (a) in Chapter VI of the U.N.S.C.O.P. report.

(2) the replacement of the mandatory power by the United Nations as administering authority during the transition period, the authority to be exercised through a body of three delegates elected by the General Assembly from nationals of States members other than the five permanent members of the Security Council

(3) the setting up of an international police force to ensure order during the transitional period, this force to be composed of military contingents from States Members other than permanent members of the Security Council the contingents to be composed preferably of volunteers but until such are available to be drawn from the regular forces of the States members

(4) the numbers and composition of this force to be fixed by the administering delegates

(5) the cost of the force to be borne by the five permanent members of the Security Council

(6) the States Members of the United Nations to

/take

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Reference FO 371/61883

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Registry  
No. E9780/951/31

57

Top Secret
Secret
Confidential
Restricted
Open

Draft.

U.K. Delegation,  
New York.

Telegram.

No. 3614

(Date) OCT. 22<sup>nd</sup>

Repeat to:—

Washington.  
No. 10904.  
Damascus.  
No. 539.

*Co. concur*

*J.S. Bent  
Oct. 22*

~~En Clair.~~  
Codex  
Cypher.

Distribution:—  
*W. D. O. G.*  
Cabinet.

*with in  
Spec attached*

Copies to:— *BASS*

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(B556) Wt. 43897-140 100m 3147 G.S.S. Gp 020

F.O.,

# OUT FILE

*22/10 1947.*

Despatched *9 45 PM M.*

Immediate

Grand Confidential *9852/951/31*

Your telegram No. 3002 [ of October 21st:  
Syrian resolution on Palestine ].

We agree with the line you are taking provided it is made ~~absolutely~~ clear that we ~~are not going back on~~ *held to* our undertaking to assume the responsibility for giving effect to any plan on which agreement is reached between the Arabs and the Jews. It does not however appear that any trustee-ship agreement would be required for the above purpose.

2. The above is being repeated to Damascus for the guidance of H.M. Chargé d'Affaires.

3. [ Not to Damascus ]. We are considering the resolutions reported in your telegrams Nos. 2983 and 2992 and in particular Nos. 11 and 12. You will presumably require guidance from us in regard to voting on ~~these~~ *the* ~~more important~~ resolutions and it will be convenient to have your preliminary observations before sending final ~~instructions~~ *views*. In this connection we should particularly like to know more about the ~~general~~ procedure *which is being adopted since the close of the general debate*

*CFH.  
2/4.*

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Reference  
**FO 371** 61883

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58

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E 9780/951/31

Confidential

Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 3614.

D. 9.45. p.m. 22nd October 1947.

22nd October 1947.

Repeated to Washington No. 10924.  
Damascus No. 539.

IMMEDIATE

GIANT

CONFIDENTIAL

Your telegram No. 3002 [of October 21st: Syrian resolution on Palestine.]

We agree with the line you are taking provided it is made clear that we are not going back on our undertaking to assume the responsibility for giving effect to any plan on which agreement is reached between the Arabs and the Jews. It does not however appear that any trustee-ship agreement would be required for the above purpose.

2. The above is being repeated to Damascus for the guidance of His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires.

3. [Not to Damascus] We are considering the resolutions reported in your telegrams Nos. 2983 and 2992 and in particular Nos. 11 and 12. You will presumably require guidance from us in regard to voting on the more important resolutions and it will be convenient to have your preliminary observations before sending final views. In this connexion we should particularly like to know more about the procedure which is being adopted since the close of the general debate.

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Reference  
**FO** 371 / 61883

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1947

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59

E 9784

PALESTINE

21 OCT

Registry Number

E9784/957/31

FROM

Govt. Khawar

No.

5 M. Devin

Dated

16 Oct

Received in Registry

21 Oct

Conversations with Musa Bey Alami

abt. Musa Bey Alami at dinner, who said, after much conversation, such as Arabs would fight & resist the majority plan, that "if partition comes about, it will have to be on certain conditions" to further gave list of what these conditions were.

Last Paper

9780

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

W. Matheron. CV  
Oct 30

dept. G. Thomas  
copy  
by J 22/10

(Action completed)

J. C. M. 21/10

(Indexed)

3/1/48

Next Paper

9799

(Minutes.)

Today for c.o. (Mr. Matherson)

and under p/2 to: U.K. Del to U.S.

New York

I have sent a copy to Mr. Beeby  
J.A.B.S.

J. C. M.

(J. C. M.)

21/10

The S/S has now thanked.

P.S. agrees to distribution as above.

D. S. Beins  
Oct. 24

From what I know of Musa Alami his attitude would be, "If partition cannot be avoided, then it must be on certain conditions." I believe that he also holds the view that in that event, the Arab part of Palestine should be attached.

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& Syria rather than Transjordan.

The conditions which Musa Alami gives are, of course, most important from the Arab point of view, but ~~idea~~ (a) will of course be impossible without some form of continued forcible control of immigration such as HM Govt are now exercising and ~~it is~~ <sup>the</sup> United Nations will ~~scarcely~~ never be ~~able~~ able (or even willing) to exercise such forcible control. (b) and (c) would be difficult, but not necessarily impossible to enforce.

J.A. [unclear]  
27/1

There seems little doubt that one could at least begin fairly sensible discussions with Musa el Alami.

The important question, on which C.O. & Jerusalem appear to differ, is the extent of his influence.

At present we can only note his views & maintain occasional contact with him.

J.A. [unclear]  
27-X  
27/10

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Mr Henniker

You were asking for this.  
Is there any objection to  
letting Co. and Harold  
Buelby see the copies?

JB out. 21

~~Yes~~ No, none, thank

JA  
22/x

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

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309A

E

E 9799

21 OCT

65

PALESTINE

Registry Number

E9799/957/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

M. J. S. A.

Dated

Received in Registry

9/5  
15 Oct  
21 -

Iraqi Reaction to Russian and American Reports  
 Refer Requested of 915 (E 9145/957/31) Reaction  
 in Iraq to the American and Russian support  
 for partition of Palestine was angry, alarmed  
 and confused. The fact that Johnson  
 had mentioned a statement by Mr. Johnson  
 by referring to receive American Congressmen.  
 further comments.

Last Paper.

9784

References.

(Minutes.)

Referred to Washington  
 Corrections requested to para. 4

*J. G. S. Beith*  
(J. G. S. Beith)  
2/10

(Print.)

The Secretary of State has minuted  
 this Telegram:- "We must give thought as to how  
 we can handle this bewilderment".

The Iraqi press and public are notoriously  
 the most intransigent amongst all the Arab states  
 on the subject of Palestine. The fact that the  
 American Congressmen have been advised not to visit  
 Iraq, will be a salutary indication to the United  
 States of Arab feeling on the issue. The Arabs  
 are now hurt and disappointed to see themselves,  
 as they think, abandoned by two of the Great Powers,  
 the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. As a result Great  
 Britain is being given due credit for her impartial  
 attitude.

Our decision to withdraw from Palestine  
 has regained us our freedom of manoeuvre vis-à-vis  
 both sides. As regards the Arabs, it has absolved  
 us from any responsibility for imposing a pro-Arab  
 solution while retaining Arab goodwill. I suggest  
 that, in order to maintain this position on the  
 lines indicated in the Secretary of State's Minute,  
 we must avoid any signs that we might hang on in  
 Palestine. The Arabs will interpret any such  
 sign as an indication that we were preparing to  
 propose a Zionist solution. (See Sir A. Kirkbride's  
 report in E9715/9373/31)

*J. G. S. Beith*  
(J. G. S. Beith)

22nd October, 1947.

9801

Wt. 2477/717 17895 10/38 F.O.P.

*But*

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**FO 371**  
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8 *Washington* 60  
M.I.S.A.  
M.V.H.  
Admty  
A/M.  
Oct-22  
(on E9716)  
[Rptd. Washington  
10894  
Oct-21  
(Action completed.)  
pp  
2/11/48  
(Index.)  
2/11/48

But at the same time the Iraqis, and the other Arabs, should be encouraged to face up to realities, and given no reason to believe that we will be prepared to withdraw "in accordance with arrangements between Hill Gout and the Arab States." It might be as well to send a telegram to Middle East posts instructing them to discourage this conception.

R. G. G. G.  
25/2

This has now been overtaken by later developments.

N

BARB

7.11

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**FO 371** / **61883**

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2. Dept

67

*We must give thought as to how we can handle this*  
*Beirut - Amman*

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Cypher/OTP

CABINET DISTRIBUTION

*We must give thought as to how we can handle this bewilderment*

FROM BAGDAD TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr Evans *Belham* D. 6. 47 a.m. 20th October, 1947. *EB*  
No. 965  
18th October, 1947. R. 9. 09 a.m. 20th October, 1947.

Repeated to United Kingdom Delegation New York  
Cairo B.M.E.O.  
Cairo Saving  
Damascus Saving.  
Beirut Saving  
Amman Saving  
Jedda Saving  
Jerusalem Saving

RESTRICTED

My telegram No. 918.

Reactions in Iraq to the American and Russian support for partition of Palestine are angry, alarmed and confused.

2. The Government have expressed their reaction to statement of Mr Johnson by refusing to receive the American Congressmen (see my telegram No. 955). The more irresponsible press advocates holy war, rupture of diplomatic relations with the United States and an embargo on her air lines.

3. In the case of Russia, press comment has been equally strong, no less than six newspapers are in favour of violent action, and one of them proposes that such action should be immediate. One paper attributes Russian support for Zionism to the possibility that immigration affords for infiltration of Communism. I have heard this view expressed frequently in official circles.

4. The opponents of Communism have consoled themselves with the set back that Russia's action is likely to cause to the spread of Communism in Arab countries. The more violent anti [gp undec] s of extreme Right such as [gp undec] Party showed some disappointment. They had previously been foremost in urging the Arabs to turn to Russia.

5. Disillusionment with United Nations has increased "Enough of these international charters and promises" says one newspaper.

/ 6. All of

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Reference  
**FO 371**  
**61883**

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E9799 / 957 / 21

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AMENDMENT SLIP 24 OCT 1947

CABINET DISTRIBUTION

Telegram No. 965 of 18th October from Bagdad to Foreign Office.

Paragraph 4 line 4 should read: "The more violent anti-Imperialists of the extreme Right such as the Istiqlal party showed some disappointment."

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT.

23rd October, 1947.

*[Handwritten signature]*



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[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP

CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM BAGDAD TO FOREIGN OFFICE

E 9799

21 OCT

Mr Evans

D. 6. 47 a.m. 20th October, 1947.

No. 965

18th October, 1947. R. 9. 09 a.m. 20th October, 1947.

Repeated to United Kingdom Delegation New York

Cairo B.M.E.O.  
Cairo Saving  
Damascus Saving  
Beirut Saving  
Amman Saving  
Jedda Saving  
Jerusalem Saving

RESTRICTED

My telegram No. 918. *E 9145/701*

Reactions in Iraq to the American and Russian support for partition of Palestine are angry, alarmed and confused.

2. The Government have expressed their reaction to statement of Mr Johnson by refusing to receive the American Congressmen (see my telegram No. 955). The more irresponsible press advocates holy war, rupture of diplomatic relations with the United States and an embargo on her air lines.

3. In the case of Russia, press comment has been equally strong, no less than six newspapers are in favour of violent action, and one of them proposes that such action should be immediate. One paper attributes Russian support for Zionism to the possibility that immigration affords for infiltration of Communism. I have heard this view expressed frequently in official circles.

4. The opponents of Communism have consoled themselves with the set back that Russia's action is likely to cause to the spread of Communism in Arab countries. The more violent anti [gp undec] s of extreme Right such as [gp undec] Party showed some disappointment. They had previously been foremost in urging the Arabs to turn to Russia.

5. Disillusionment with United Nations has increased "Enough of these international charters and promises" says one newspaper.

/ 6.



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Reference

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6. All of these reactions are largely unthinking, responsible men are engaged in trying to forecast [gp undec] attitude of His Majesty's Government. They believe that Britain will not withdraw and leave a vacuum and they are hoping against hope that withdrawal will take place in accordance with arrangements between His Majesty's Government and Arab States. (c.f. Beirut telegram No. 720, paragraph 2). Even amongst responsible editors however there appears to be little appreciation of the fact that the Jews of Palestine amount in themselves to a formidable force and they cling to a belief that the Arabs can deal with Yishuv given neutralization of United States and benevolent neutrality of His Majesty's Government.

*8/11 9372*

Foreign Office please pass to United Kingdom Delegation New York as my telegram No. 13.

[Repeated to U.K.Del. New York]

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**FO** 371 / 61883

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E 2001  
21 OCT

En clair

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION

FROM CAIRO TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Bowker  
No. 2037

D. 11.20 a.m. 20th October, 1947.

20th October, 1947.

R. 1.50 p.m. 20th October, 1947.

Repeated to :	Moscow	)	(	Damascus
	Amman	)	(	Jerusalem
	Bagdad	)	(	Jedda
	Beirut	)		

Following summaries Arabic press comment on Russian declaration of support of partition of Palestine.

'Journal d'Egypte' of 14th October complains that United States Government has played into Moscow's hands by suggesting international police force for Palestine. Article argues that Russians have skilfully ensured their entry into Middle East for indefinite period since they will evidently participate in international police force. Article concludes by saying this is cruel but salutary deception for Arab countries since it dispels their illusion, created by Russian attitude [? in] Egyptian case, that Russia was their friend and champion of independence.

2. 'Mokattam' of 15th October considers Russia's attitude was to be expected in view of line Poland had taken owing, 'Mokattam' suggests, to desire to rid herself of Jews. If Russia happens to side with Arabs' causes, she only does so in her own interests.

3. 'Assas' of 16th October remarks that, although declared enemies, United States and Russia are for once in agreement on Palestine question. Alleges that their attitude to Palestine and indeed whole Arab orient proves that spirit of Nazism is still alive, its new victim being the small States. Russia has now lost sympathy of East which she had won a few weeks earlier. Indeed she has lost more than the United States since United States had been accused of being under Zionist influence for years. From Russian attitude on Security Council Arabs had thought of her as on their side. How great was their deception when it was found that her Government too had imbibed spirit of Nazism.

4. 'Ikhwan-el-Muslimeen' of 15th October considers that Arabs will welcome news that Russia supports the partition of Palestine with lively satisfaction. British and Americans had always alleged that Arab movements for independence were not due to political maturity but caused by foreign hands, their illusion being to Russia. They even said that Middle East must remain under yoke of imperialism so that this strategic zone should be protected against Communism.

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74

Now it is clear, concludes article, that Arabs have leaned neither to Right nor to Left, that their movement in Palestine is essentially Arab and that no foreign hand is behind it.

5. Some paper of 17th October carried lengthy article arguing that Russia's support of Egyptian cause in Security Council was only political move aimed against British so that Russia might gain strategic outlet in Mediterranean. Article sums up Russia's aims [ ? em. ] imposing Jews on Palestine as -

- (A) to cause revolution in Arab world following United Nations' approval of partition scheme;
- (B) to overthrow British mandate;
- (C) to secure participation of Russian force in international police force sent to Palestine in event of enforcement of partition scheme; and
- (D) destruction of Eastern Mediterranean Front which democracy had welcomed as bulwark against Russian expansion.

6. 'Sheala' of 17th October, after publishing report from New York correspondent to effect that Russia aims by this move at destruction of Anglo-Saxon bloc, warns Arabs against these Powers who pretend to show sympathy for them while out to achieve their own ends.

7. 'Achbarel-Yon' considers Russian attitude stab in back for Arabs.

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**FO** 371 / 61883

3/2 LAST 310

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75

E 9806

1947

PALESTINE

21 OCT

Registry Number

E 9806/957/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

New York

Dated

2974

Received in Registry

18 Oct

21

*Palastine Situation*  
*Refer 4061 to Cairo 1925 (E/9)*  
*has arisen an probable settlement of*  
*question sees emergence of Jewish State*  
*but just few and when cannot yet*  
*be judged*

Last Paper.

9806

(Minutes.)

*U.N. Palestine*  
*JA 257 X*

*Tables*

*(52 cables)*

*21/10*

References.

*Dr. Ben*

*Oct. 22*

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

*8* *Wathman Co.*  
*1* *M139*  
*M104*  
*Delmity*  
*A.M.*  
*Oct 22*  
*(on E 9716)*

*JA 22/X*

(Action completed.)

*ESM/est/10*

(Index.)

*[Handwritten marks]*

Next Paper.

E 9816

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Reference

FO

371

61883

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E 9808

76

21 OCT DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

Cypher/OTP

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE  
(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 2977 D. 4.00 p.m. 18th October, 1947

18th October, 1947. R. 6.16 p.m. 18th October, 1947

Please pass to Jerusalem.

[Begins].

Addressed to High Commissioner Palestine telegram No. 102 of 18th October.

Top Secret.

Personal for Gurney from MacGillivray.

Your telegram No. 1925.

Press reports may have led you to suppose that there has been much activity here behind the scenes of which the High Commissioner has not been kept informed; in fact during the period of the general debate just concluded, accounts of which have been sent daily to the High Commissioner, this has not been so, at least on the part of United Kingdom Delegation which, in adherence to the terms under which the matter was referred to the United Nations has been obliged, while keeping an ear close on the ground, to take a somewhat passive role at this early stage. Assume High Commissioner received the Secretary of State's Top Secret and Personal telegram of 7th October; he will now also have received the more up to date appreciation of the position which is contained in the Secretary of State's telegrams from here Nos. 97 and 98 of 17th October; and he will have seen Foreign Office telegram to Cairo No. 1925. There is really nothing to add. As to the likely course of future events your guess is as good as ours. All that can at present be discerned through the fog is the emergence of a Jewish state in some shape; but how and just when it will come into being cannot yet be judged. The Jewish Agency appear confident that they will obtain a two-thirds majority in favour of partition in the Assembly; the Arabs on the other hand claim to have rallied sixteen negative votes and hope to obtain additions to this number of abstentions sufficient to secure its rejection. If the vote were to be taken now it would undoubtedly be a close affair, but the situation may change in the next few weeks in the course of the detailed study in sub-committees of the implications of partition of which till now some members, who have declared themselves in favour in principle, have only a superficial acquaintance. In any event the Jewish Agency do not seem to be in the least optimistic (and this lack of optimism is shared by most delegations) that, should a plan of partition be

/adopted

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E 9816

PALESTINE

21 OCT

Registry Number

E 9816/977/31

TELEGRAM FROM

U.K. Del

No.

New York

Dated

2986

Received in Registry

20 Oct

21 -

U.N. Political Debates

49 prepared speeches were made in general debate on Palestine, the 6 Arab States contributing 14 of them. Of the 31 delegations which spoke 14 declared themselves for partition and 12 against while remaining 5 (including U.K.) were non-committal. Judging from tally given the proportion of right delegations which favour partition is higher than those against.

Last Paper.

9806

(Minutes.)

References.

It looks distinctly doubtful whether a 2/3 majority in favour of partition can be found

(Print.)

U.N. (Pol.) Dept. <sup>11.25</sup>x

J.S. Quint  
Oct. 21

(How disposed of.)

S. Matheson C.O.

M.I.39.

M.O.4

Admty

a/w

Oct-22  
(on E 9716)

(Action completed.)

J.S. Quint

(Index)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

E 9845

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References  
FO 371 / 61883

[Signature]



E 9816  
21 OCT

79  
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Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE  
(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 2986

D. 10.55 a.m. 20th October, 1947

20th October, 1947.

R. 5.25 p.m. 20th October, 1947

Repeated to High Commissioner Palestine  
Washington Saving

49 prepared speeches were made in the general debate on Palestine, the 6 Arab States contributing 14 of them. Of the 31 delegations which spoke 14 declared themselves for partition and 12 against while the remaining 5 (including the United Kingdom) were non-committal. Judging from lobby gossip the proportion of silent delegations which favour partition is higher than those against.

Foreign Office please pass to Colonial Office and to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 105.

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

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Reference  
**FO** 371 / 61883

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PALESTINE

E 9845  
22 OCT 80

Registry Number

E9845/957/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

U.K. Del  
New York.  
2992  
20, Oct  
22 -

Palatine Committee Meetings.  
Refer New York tel 2983 (E 9780/917/31)  
Transmit further list of Resolutions  
submitted to Palatine ad Soc Committee  
on Palatine.

Last Paper.

9816

(Minutes.)

References.

UN (Pal.) Dept.

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23/10

J.S. Burns  
Oct. 24

29/10

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Mathison 80  
M.I.S.A.  
M.O.4  
Admty  
A/m.  
Oct-22  
(on E9716)

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

J.S. Burns  
29/10

J.S. Burns  
29/10

Next Paper.

E 9852

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References

FO 371 61883

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1947

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E 9852

22 OCT 82

PALESTINE

Registry Number } E 9852/957/81

TELEGRAM FROM

No. U.K. Del New York

Dated 3002  
Received in Registry } 21 Oct  
22 -

Syrian Revolution in Palestine.  
Refer Damascus tel 452 (E 9761/957/81)  
Syrian Revolution recommends a trusteeship  
agreement providing for the early establishment  
of a unitary democratic state in Palestine on  
the lines of the now famous Arab Plan,  
it is being pointed out that UNRWA could  
not undertake to administer a trusteeship  
over Palestine, hence the would be contrary  
to Colonial Secretary's statements

(Minutes.)

Last Paper.

9845

References.

un (pe) [unclear]

[Signature]  
(J. E. CHAPMAN)  
22/10

See E9780 and  
action

Mrs. Baird  
OCT. 22

[Signature]  
29/10

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, Matheson, P.O.  
M-1.3.9.  
M.O.4  
Adm. by  
a. M.  
Oct 23  
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(Action completed.)

[Signature]  
26/10/10

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27/10/10

Next Paper.

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

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FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 3002  
21st October, 1947

D. 11.45 a.m. 21st October, 1947  
R. 6.00 p.m. 21st October, 1947

Repeated to Damascus  
Washington Saving

E 9852

IMPORTANT

Damascus telegram to you No. 4522 OCT

Palestine.

9761

The Syrian resolution recommends a trusteeship agreement providing for the early establishment of a unitary democratic state in Palestine on the lines of the now familiar Arab Plan. Without criticising the objective of this proposal we are pointing out here that we could not in any circumstances undertake to administer a trusteeship over Palestine since this would be contrary to the two declarations of policy made by the Colonial Secretary.

Foreign Office please pass to Damascus as my telegram No. 5.

[Repeated to Damascus]  
[Copy sent to M.E. Secretariat]

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FO 371 / 61883

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PALESTINE

E 9860  
23 OCT 86

Registry Number E9860/951/21  
FROM U.K. Del.  
No. New York.  
Dated 15 Oct  
Received in Registry 23 ~

*Palentine Situation*

transmit record of the 22nd meeting of the U.K. Del. to General Assembly held at Empire State Building 15, Oct 1947

Last Paper

9857

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Minutes.)

A spare copy has been submitted already 13 Oct. 23

2nd P.P. i.o.c. (NY) (47) 11 (36) 16/10  
Jy 24/10

2nd P.P. i.o.c. (NY) 47/11 (27) mtg 24/10  
Jy 4/11

(Action completed)

J. E. [Signature] 1/10

(Index)

[Signature]

Next Paper

9861

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EMPIRE STATE BLDG.  
61ST FLOOR  
NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

E 9860

87

With the completion of  
23 OCT

United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations  
Assembly.

15<sup>th</sup> October 1947

Eastern Department,  
Foreign Office.

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References

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I have written to Mr Reeley  
privately about the para. on p. 5.  
Could we enter this if not  
required elsewhere?  
I.O.C.(N.Y.) (47) II 22nd Meeting. 45 X

15th October, 1947.

Recd. 22.10

RECORD OF THE 22nd MEETING OF THE UNITED  
KINGDOM DELEGATION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HELD AT THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING ON  
WEDNESDAY, 15th OCTOBER, 1947, AT 9.15 A.M.

1. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

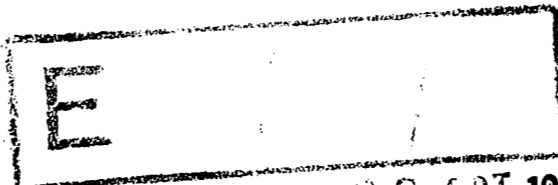
Palestine

The Minister of State asked the Colonial Secretary whether he would be prepared to make a statement on the Palestine question.

The Colonial Secretary said that the opinion of the Committee seemed to be hardening in favour of partition and that a recommendation in this sense would probably be the final outcome. The Arabs showed no signs of relenting in their opposition. The Jews, on the other hand, were showing signs of anxiety, since they were well aware that partition could only be effective if it were enforced. Nevertheless they had so far refused to enter into any discussions with the Arabs since they feared that the chances of partition might thereby be diminished.

In the Palestine Committee there was a disposition to reconsider the boundaries recommended in the majority report, and many of the more obvious injustices had been acknowledged by various delegations. The Committee were, however, chary of facing up to the implications of enforcement. In particular, the United States took the view that the British administration should continue during the transitional period. They thought that the United Nations should give advice and financial assistance, and supervise the activities of the British administration and proceed at the same time gradually to take over the administration from the British. Eventually the United Nations would also provide a security force. The United States were fighting shy of enforcement and they claimed that such enforcement as might be necessary would not require a major operation. They suggested that an international police force would be enough. In our view this was both unreal and unwise. A volunteer police force would be

/composed.



28 OCT 1947

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As regards the Syrian resolution which proposed the continuation of the administration by the mandatory Power, the Minister of State thought it equally unrealistic. It appeared not to take into account the determination of His Majesty's Government to withdraw from Palestine. It would involve consultation with all other parties involved, including presumably the United States and other countries with large Jewish populations. Such consultation would not only delay matters but greatly increase the difficulties in attaining a satisfactory solution.

The Attorney General expressed concern about the probable reactions to the Colonial Secretary's statement. Any discussion was unreal in the absence of a fixed date for withdrawal. The failure to explain and to emphasize the consequences of withdrawal make it more unreal still since very few of the Delegations had any idea of what these consequences would be. He thought that the attitude of His Majesty's Government was somewhat disingenuous; they were not asking for advice, they were throwing in their hand. In fact they were presenting the United Nations with an ultimatum. The Attorney General thought it essential to make the position clear to Commonwealth governments. From conversations with Commonwealth representatives he was convinced that they were unaware that we had no proposal of our own to make and he did not think that they knew how we should vote. They did not appreciate the need we felt not to alienate Arab states and did not seem to realize that British participation in any solution recommended was very unlikely.

In the discussion which followed there was general agreement with the views expressed by the Attorney General especially as regards the need for stating a date or even a target date for withdrawal. The meeting noted that His Majesty's Government were not prepared to suggest or to commit themselves to support any scheme. It was pointed out that this placed His Majesty's Government and the United Kingdom delegation in an invidious position particularly as of all the nations in the United Nations the United Kingdom alone fully understood the problems involved and alone might be able to propose a workable solution or to advise as to the best means of achieving one. It was agreed however that in fact it was very improbable that any of the solutions proposed could work and that the matter had been

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Mr. Hadow said that as regards the Latin American States, it was important in order to obtain their co-operation that the statement to be made by the Colonial Secretary should not contain or imply a condemnation of the United Nations. Mr. Henderson said that many Delegations had enquired of him what in His Majesty's Government's opinion was a just solution? When would the United Kingdom Delegation express themselves on this subject? In the General Debate? Or in the Sub-Committee? The Minister of State pointed out that there could be no answer at this stage to this question. It was inevitable that the Soviet or some other Delegation would follow the same tactics which we had adopted in respect of Greece's northern neighbours in the debate on the Greek question and would insist on an indication of our intention to co-operate in any solution recommended.

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2. INTERIM COMMITTEE.

Mr. Jebb explained the various points on which the draft French resolution differed from that suggested by the United Kingdom Delegation. The Attorney General said that he would like to have our own resolution circulated before making his statement in Committee 1 on October 16th. It was pointed out, however, that since the Commonwealth Delegations might have some amendments to suggest at the Commonwealth meeting on October 16th and since it would be difficult to obtain full publicity in the United Kingdom press for the Colonial Secretary's speech on Palestine and for the Attorney General's speech on the Interim Committee which was being made the same day, it would be better to postpone the Attorney General's speech if possible until the end of the General Debate on the Interim Committee in Committee 1. The United Kingdom resolution need therefore not be circulated until October 17th.

3. ECONOMIES IN DOCUMENTATION TRANSLATIONS.

There were no objections raised to the report of the Advisory Committee (A/C. 5/168).

4. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST.

The meeting approved the brief on this subject (I.O.C. (N.Y.) (47) II (32) ).

5. AMENDMENTS TO PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE.

The Minister of State said that he had not had time to read Mr. Bathurst's memorandum I.O.C. (N.Y.) (47) II. (31) and since he must close the meeting, he would prefer to have it discussed at the next Delegation meeting. It was agreed that since the matter was due for discussion in Sub-Committee 3 of the Sixth Committee in the afternoon of October 16th, objections on the part of any member of the Delegation should be communicated to Mr. Bathurst before mid-day on October 16th. It was agreed that Mr. Younger's proposal for a re-draft of the rules narrowing down the powers of Committee 5 should be discussed between Mr. Bathurst, Mr. Younger, Sir William Mathews and the Minister of State later in the day.

6. KOREA.

Mr. Lawford said that the United States Delegation were considering our objections to their proposed resolution about Korea and that they appeared to see the force of them. He said that he had arranged to meet the Americans and would circulate a minute recording the result of his conversation.

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**FO 371 61883**

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E 9860 / 951 / 31. INDEXED

24 OCT 1947

I.O.C.(N.Y.)(47)II (36).

16th October, 1947.

CORRIGENDUM.

Please note the following corrections:

- (1) Page One - Line 10: for "to advise my government" read "to traduce my government".
- (2) Page 2 - Line 28: The passage commencing "and in spite of" up to "in recent years" must be obliterated.
- (3) Page 6 - Line 2: This sentence must now read as follows:  
"In short His Majesty's Government will not accept the responsibility for enforcement either alone or in the major role."
- (4) Page 6 - Line 29: This must now read "law in Palestine. This factor greatly influences" etc.
- (5) Page 8 - Line 16: a comma is essential after "responsibility to".

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Reference: **FO 371 61883**

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L.O.C. (NY) (47) II (36)

16<sup>th</sup> October 1947.

Speech to be delivered by the  
Right Honourable Arthur Creech-Jones, M.P.  
in the Ad Hoc Committee on the Palestinian  
Question on Thursday, 16th October, 1947.

Before the General Discussion concludes and the Committee examines suggestions which have emerged for resolving the Palestine problem, I desire to make some observations, though in some respects it will be necessary for me to reiterate some of the points in my earlier statement.

It was to be expected that in the public discussion of the problem which Palestine presents, certain harsh and inaccurate statements should be made regarding the policy of the Mandatory Government and the work of the British authority in Palestine. We do not complain of fair and disinterested criticism. It has been easy enough for those without responsibility - for those with their own interests to promote - to advise my Government. But my silence must not be interpreted to mean that I endorse inaccuracies and prejudices and that there is no answer to the criticisms; rather, it should be understood that whatever the temptation to me to reply, my Delegation feel that in present circumstances no purpose is served by recriminatory talk when the Palestine problem is so difficult and grave as it is. It demands from all of us understanding, and as little prejudice as possible.

His Majesty's Government is now surrendering the Mandate over Palestine with, I note, general approval. The United Kingdom set out 30 years ago to establish a National Home for the Jewish people and undertook to do nothing which might prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine. It undertook, with international endorsement, to facilitate Jewish immigration under suitable conditions and to encourage close settlement by Jews on the land while ensuring that the rights and position of other sections of the population are not prejudiced. It has proved a thankless, and ultimately an impracticable, responsibility for, in the nature of things, neither Jews nor Arabs have been satisfied that their rights and claims have been fully acknowledged by the Mandatory; neither have felt able to assume genuine responsibility in government or administration and neither have been

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Reference  
**FO 371 61883**

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prepared to acknowledge differences and find some mutual accommodation. In the circumstances, the Mandate has proved self-contradictory and to a great extent unworkable. Nevertheless, the National Home has been established, a Jewish community of over 6000,000 has been built up, the Arab population has doubled, social standards have improved and economic activities have increased to the advantage of everyone. The services of the modern state have been created.

This is not only our judgment of the situation but is confirmed by the Report of the United Nations Special Committee from which I quote the following extracts:

"The present difficult circumstances should not distort the perspective of solid achievement arising from the joint efforts of the Jewish community and the Administration in laying the foundations of the National Home".

(Paragraph 93 on page 23)

"One may find in the record of the Palestine Administration evidence of persistent effort to effect gradual improvements in the economic and social condition of the Arab population".

(Paragraph 97 on page 24).

Britain which has played some part in saving liberty against tyranny in two world wars, which contributed something to the making of the new Arab nations, which has given shelter in the United Kingdom since the end of the war to over 300,000 individuals who would otherwise have been in the displaced persons camps on the Continent and has found homes since 1933 for some 70,000 Jewish refugees, and which by its struggle in war and its administration helped to make the National Home possible, will be judged before the bar of history in due course. I want only to say that in spite of the revolts and the terrorism and in spite of the failure of at least one of the communities to fulfill the normal responsibilities of citizens in the maintenance of order in recent years, Palestine has built up its services and still enjoys economic prosperity; the machinery of administration has worked - a great tribute to the Palestine authorities and the Government servants who under great strain and risk have been employed there.

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In our judgment a Mandatory Government may voluntarily relinquish the administration of a mandate.

His Majesty's Government are entitled in view of the general opinion expressed in this Committee and also the unworkability of the Mandate to lay it down and ask the United Nations because of the conflict and its menacing possibilities to consider how orderly government can be achieved and Palestine move rapidly to self-governing and independence - the goal unanimously desired by all the parties and the nations represented here. We have struggled hard for a solution of these difficulties and at the cost of hundreds of lives and considerable wealth. Perhaps in the light of all the advice and criticism offered to us in the past by the nationals of other states, more effective ways of securing the elusive solution we were always seeking may be found. We cannot go on indefinitely faced with the hostility of the parties in Palestine, with fierce misrepresentations outside and with the drain on our own resources.

But no scheme for modifying the clash of rights as they are understood by the parties in Palestine can be divorced from the question of its implementation. It seems to us essential that in determining the nature of a settlement the Assembly should also determine the measures to implement it. It would be unreasonable to ask His Majesty's Government to carry the sole and full responsibility for the administration of Palestine and for enforcing changes which the United Nations regard as necessary. It has been suggested, as I understand it, that the United Kingdom should carry such responsibility throughout an indefinite transition period until independence is attained, acting under the supervision of the United Nations to enforce United Nations policy and being assisted by a programme of aid as mentioned by the distinguished delegate of the United States, including the possible assistance of a voluntarily recruited international police force. My Government desire that it should be clear beyond all doubt and ambiguity that not only is it our decision to wind up the Mandate but that within a limited period we shall withdraw. They made only two qualifications. First that in the event of a settlement between Jews and Arabs they would if so desired continue the administration of Palestine through the limited period of the transfer to independence. Second, that they would consider an invitation to

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participate in giving effect to a settlement in partnership with other members of the United Nations. In short His Majesty's Government will not accept in any case either an isolated responsibility in enforcement nor the major role.

They still hope that in view of their firm intention to withdraw both the Jewish and Arab communities will be seized with the realities of the situation and appreciate to the full the unhappy consequences that can flow to themselves and their country by failing to agree on the future of Palestine. The United Kingdom Government most earnestly hopes that the discussions of the past weeks have revealed the trend of world opinion and the dangers of a continuing struggle between the two peoples and that their representatives and the United Nations will quickly move to some accommodation which will bring harmony and stability in this part of the Middle East. It is a new situation confronting the parties concerned. The weeks of discussion here should make this hope not more unrealistic (as it has been described) but less.

Moreover we trust that anxieties now felt in the Middle East about the present deliberations of the United Nations and their possible outcome will not lead to military preparation or deployment of force amongst the peoples concerned. We hope that no steps will be taken that will be provocative and lead result in violence. Certainly His Majesty's Government has given and will give no encouragement or assistance to actions which will inflame the situation in the Middle East. Rumours and assertions that any such encouragement has been given are entirely without foundation.

Another dangerous factor in the present situation is the traffic in illegal immigration into Palestine and the connivance of some Governments in the provision by their nationals of ships, arms and money to defeat the Mandatory in the very difficult task of upholding the rule of law in Palestine, which greatly influences the feeling of the Arab world and sets irresponsible influences at work which cannot readily be controlled. In this last period, and in discharge of its duties, the British authorities will have no easy task in controlling the problem of immigration into Palestine particularly in the face of the bitter resentment of one of the

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parties that immigration continues at all and the indignation of the other that it is far too limited. In any event it must be recognised that the immigration question is one which arouses bitter feelings in Palestine and that proposals for a change in the status quo should not be lightly put forward by those who have no responsibility for the consequences. The complications of this problem are known and the difficulties of the Mandatory in carrying its difficult and onerous responsibility should not be increased.

My delegation expresses the hope that the Committee will regard as an urgent contribution to the solution of the Palestine problem the resolution we have submitted concerning displaced persons in Europe and particularly that aspect of the matter concerning the absorption of Jews and other displaced persons in countries besides Palestine. No action is more calculated to help the Arab people to a fair appreciation of our sincerity in this problem of refugees and Jewish displaced persons and our sincerity about the Palestine problem than action on this resolution.

My Government will continue to make available what experience and knowledge it possesses for the use of the United Nations in its search for the solution to this problem. Our resources can be used to assist in arriving at an equitable and just plan. But I should be unfair to the Committee if I did not repeat that the sand has started to run and that conclusions should not be unduly delayed and the problem of implementation should be conceived as a parallel study and integral part of the Committee's/ work.

On this last point my Government has stated (and it needs to be repeated in view of doubts expressed) that if the Assembly should recommend a policy which is not acceptable to the Jews and Arabs, some authority alternative to the United Kingdom must be provided in order to implement the United Nations policy. If it is desired that His Majesty's Government should participate with others in the enforcement of a settlement - and everything that can be done to bring about a permanent and acceptable solution to all concerned is essential - my Government adheres to the view

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that it must take into account the inherent justice of the settlement and the extent to which force would be required to give effect to it.

But I hope it will be agreed by all delegates that the view of the Special Committee's Report should be upheld that there is urgent need for change of status in Palestine. The withdrawal of the British administration there should if possible proceed by an orderly transfer of power to a suitable authority recognised by the United Nations to usher in independence. Britain in any case is unable to sustain a burden too heavy for any mandatory to discharge, especially when its responsibilities are made the more difficult by the freedom enjoyed by the nationals of other states to employ every means to defeat her efforts. This problem should be studied at once for it is of the utmost importance that in the possible absence of agreement between the Jews and Arabs the complicated task of withdrawal should not be the prelude to disorder and disintegration of the public services essential for the normal life of Palestine. Without suitable authorities to negotiate and transfer responsibility to the preservation of institutions, communications and public works, the observance of law and fundamental services become problems of major difficulty. Some procedure should be worked out by the substitute authority which will ensure proper safeguards for the preservation of good order and the requirements necessary to give effective security forces for the police and other measures which the situation may require.

We hope that when a policy is worked out as representing the consensus of international opinion both parties will respect it and not resort to methods which will destroy security and create chaos and violence in Palestine. In that unhappy eventuality the United Nations must control a situation dangerous to peace. We hope that all concerned will realise that their ultimate best interests lie in a settlement that can be worked in goodwill and good neighbourliness.

My delegation will have the opportunity of expressing its views on certain of the proposals embodied in the resolutions before the Committee. We desire both now and in the future to live in friendly co-operation with Arabs and Jews alike. I have tried to restate the position of my Government and to suggest that we view our membership of this organisation as a

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responsibility not lightly carried. Our earnest wish is to be helpful in the great tasks the United Nations was brought into being to discharge. We ask the Committee to act quickly and we hope that the opportunity and the duty confronting the Member States will be conceived comprehensively and realistically as well as in a generous spirit. All of us want harmony restored to this Holy and tragic land.

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